



**City of Santa Barbara  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**Regular Meeting of  
THE FRANKLIN NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, February 17, 2010**

**Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Franklin Neighborhood Center Advisory Committee meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ana Soto at 7:00 PM at the Franklin Neighborhood Center, 1136 East Montecito Street, Santa Barbara, CA.

**ROLL CALL:**

**Members Present**

Ana Soto  
Teresa Peña  
Sebastian Aldana  
Sharon Byrne  
Chrystal Sturm  
Michael Goldberg

**Members Absent**

Jhoane Perez (excused)

**Staff Present**

Ricardo Venegas, NOS Coordinator II

**Liaisons Present**

Councilman Bendy White

**Guests**

Ken Rivas  
Sarah Grant, Mobility Coordinator  
Nat Reinke

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular meeting, Wednesday, February 17, 2010. A motion was made by Sebastian Aldana to approve minutes and was seconded By Teresa Peña, passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS:** None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The Santa Barbara County Health Department will continue to provide the H1N1 clinic free of charge at the Franklin Neighborhood Center every Tuesday and Wednesday into March. Sharon Byrne announced that

Councilman Bendy White was appointed as the liaison to the Franklin Neighborhood Center Advisory Committee.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Sebastian continues to do outreach to residents and the business community to encourage their participation with ongoing trash/graffiti abatement throughout the neighborhood and Milpas. In addition, Sebastian has been monitoring the dumping of house trash/furniture onto the parkways and has noticed that there are a few properties that seem to be doing this on a regular basis. Committee members agreed this has been an ongoing issue and suggested that code enforcement be invited to a future meeting to see if they have suggestions for dealing with the illegal dumping. Sebastian also continues to attend the Milpas Action Task Force to provide information and/or voice the neighborhood concerns regarding issues of homelessness.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Eastside Neighborhood Curb Cuts Project – Sarah Grant, Mobility Coordinator gave a presentation on current curb cut projects that are taking place throughout the neighborhood. Sarah discussed the Pedestrian Master Safety Plan in great detail including high quality safety curb cuts and pedestrian safety crosswalks. In addition, Sarah shared information on the work currently being done through the Sidewalk Infill Program. Councilman Bendy White suggested that the committee look at the list of the 500 or so missing sidewalk links throughout the City and work with Sarah to prioritize those areas that will provide the greatest impact to pedestrian safety. Committee discussed ongoing traffic and pedestrian issues in the neighborhood including, especially pedestrian safety around the schools, cycling on Milpas, and the ongoing issue of speeding through some of the main neighborhood streets like Salinas, Montecito, and Carpinteria.
- b. Marijuana Dispensaries – Sharon Byrne provided an update on the marijuana dispensary issue including the upcoming moratorium discussion on dispensaries at the next Ordinance Committee meeting. Sharon and other members highlighted that there has been a substantial negative impact on neighborhood safety that is due to the related incidents of violence associated with marijuana dispensaries. Councilman Bendy White added that it is certainly a contentious issue for both sides who are adamant about their positions.
- c. Neighborhood Improvement CDBG Grant 2010 – Ken Rivas and Ana Soto summarized the CDBG Grants that were presented by Staff/Neighborhood Improvement Task Force with the assistance of the Franklin Neighborhood Center Advisory Committee. This year's proposed CDBG Grant Projects submitted for funding included the Cabrillo Ball Field for \$25,000; Ortega Park Restroom Restoration at \$225,000; Ortega Park Security Lighting for \$73,000; and Ortega Park Basketball Courts coming at \$55,000; AC Unit Installation at Davis and Westside Community Center for \$25,000; Teen Center Project/Franklin Grant for \$25,000 and

Neighborhood Enhancement Program Grant in the amount of \$70,000. Staff will provide and update at the next regular meeting.

- d. Restructuring of Advisory Committees – Teresa and Ana informed that the subcommittee continues to work on the final proposal that will be used as the blue print for defining the parameters and/model for the new combined advisory committee.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. Planning Meet and Greet – Sharon proposed that the Franklin Neighborhood Center hold a Meet and Greet Event in the neighborhood so that the committee not only meets neighborhood residents, but also updates the neighborhood regarding the many important neighborhood improvement projects that are taking place throughout the eastside. Staff recommended that the committee consider consolidating this event with the Ortega Park Welcome House “Open House” once all construction is complete sometime in late March. After much discussion, the committee was in agreement to consolidate both events. Sharon was appointed to take the lead on this event and will work with Staff to coordinate-Sharon and/or Staff will provide an update at the next meeting.

**STAFF REPORTS:** Staff provided summary reports on the ongoing work of participants through the Santa Barbara Arts Alliance, the Franklin Teen Center, and the Farmers Market food distribution program.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 8:40 PM, there being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned by Chairperson, Ana Soto.

Respectfully submitted,

Ricardo Venegas  
Neighborhood and Outreach Services Coordinator II